



PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date May 13, 2003

In re the Application of

Francois MAILLET et al.

Group Art Unit: 1637

Application No.: 09/680,946

Examiner: J. Fredman

Filed: October 6, 2000

Docket No.: 028662.96

For: RNA AMPLIFICATION METHOD REQUIRING ONLY ONE MANIPULATION STEP

RECEIVED
MAY 16 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**LARGE ENTITY PETITION FOR 1st - 3rd EXTENSION
OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) AND
TRANSMITTAL OF FEE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.17**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

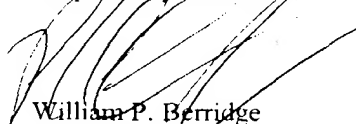
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response to the outstanding Official Action in the above-identified patent application. The shortened statutory period having expired February 13, 2003, an extension of time for a period of three months is hereby requested. Attached hereto is our Check No. 142105 in the amount of \$930 in payment for:

_____ Extension fee for response within first month pursuant to §1.136(a) (\$110.00)
_____ Extension fee for response within second month pursuant to §1.136(a) (\$410.00)
X _____ Extension fee for response within third month pursuant to §1.136(a) (\$930.00)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. Two copies of this petition are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Philip A. Caramanica, Jr.
Registration No. 51,528

WPB:PAC/amw

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461